

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Urban Development (Shri M. Arunachalam) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In Karol Bagh, the Municipal Corporation of Delhi has booked 1203 cases of unauthorised construction upto June, 1991. The number of such cases in other parts of Delhi under its jurisdiction during the period are reported to be 7563.

Delhi Development Authority has stated that whenever authorised construction/encroachment is detected immediate action is taken by it under the law. During 1990-91 it removed 6304 unauthorised construction/encroachments and thus reclaimed 286.16 acres of its land.

The number of such cases detected by New Delhi Municipal Committee in its jurisdiction during 1991 are 129.

(c) Action against unauthorised construction/encroachment is a continuing process. As and when such activity is noticed appropriate action such as sealing, demolition, removal, etc. is taken under the Delhi Development Act, 1957, the Delhi Municipal Corporation Act, 1957, and the Punjab Municipal Act, 1911 (as applicable in the case of New Delhi Municipal Committee) by the concerned authorities.

Growth of Unauthorised Banquet Halls in Delhi

821. Shri M. V. Chandra Shekara Murthy :

Shri V. Sreenivasa Prasad :
Will the Minister of Urban Development be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is mushroom growth of unauthorised Banquet halls in Delhi particularly in Preet Vihar ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take in the regard ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Urban Development (Shri M. Arunachalam) : (a) to (c) There are 4 Banquet halls in Preet Vihar. 25 Banquet Halls reported to be run without any valid licence. The owners of 16 Banquet Halls have already been prosecuted and action against the remaining 9 has since been initiated.

Inclusion of Washermen Community in SC List

822. Shri Sobhanadreeswara Rao Vadde : Will the Minister of Welfare be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of strong demand by the Washermen in some States to include their community in the list of Scheduled Castes ;

(b) whether the Andhra Pradesh Government has recommended for inclusion of the community in the list of Scheduled Castes ;

(c) if so, the action taken by the Government ; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

The Minister of Welfare (Shri Sitaram Kesri) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) The recommendations are examined in consultation with the Registrar General of India before a decision is taken.

Any amendment in the existing Scheduled Castes lists can be made only through an Act of Parliament as laid down in Article 341(2) of the Constitution.

Promotion of Tribal Languages

823. Shri Bhagey Gobardhan :
Will the Minister of Human Resource Development be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have directed the State Governments to provide adequate facilities for instruction in the mother-tongue at the primary stage of education to children belonging to linguistic minority groups, as contemplated under Article 350-A of the Constitution of India ;

(b) whether most of the tribal languages spoken in parts of Bihar, Orissa and West Bengal such as Ho, Munda, Santal, Mahali, Birhar etc. have been ignored due to lack of patronage and support either from the Union Government or the concerned State Government; and

(c) If so, the steps being taken to rectify the situation?

The Minister of Human Resource Development (Shri Arjun Singh): (a) to (c) Article No. 350(A) of the Constitution stipulates that every State and local authority within the State should try to provide adequate facility for instruction in mother-tongue at the primary stage of education to children belonging to linguistic minority groups. In pursuance of this stipulation the policy of the Government has been that at primary stage instruction in the medium of mother tongue should be arranged for students belonging to linguistic minorities when such a facility is desired by atleast 40 students in a school or 10 in a class. Most of the States have generally been following this policy. However, difficulties are being encountered such as administrative and financial feasibility of providing instructional facilities through a variety of mother tongues, development of script, preparation and production of textual material and reference books in different languages, availability of adequate number of teachers with proficiency in the tribal languages etc.

Programmes are being organised with the involvement of Central Institute of Indian Languages (CIIL), Mysore for production of language textbooks, teaching materials and primers that begin primary education through the tribal mother-tongue and gradually switch over to the regional language. Training and orientation of teachers in this regard is also being taken up.

Deaths caused by open manholes in Delhi

824. **Shri Madan Lal Khurana:** Will the Minister of Urban Development be pleased to state:

(a) whether any assessment has been made with regard to the functioning of the D.D.A.

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) how many deaths have taken place in Delhi which were caused by the open manholes;

(d) whether any responsibility has been fixed for causing such deaths and compensation paid to the bereaved families;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) how many uncovered man-holes still exist in Delhi?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Urban Development (Shri M. Arunachalam): (a) and (b) The functioning of the Delhi Development Authority (DDA) has been assessed by the following Committees/Agencies:—

- (i) Committee of Experts (Baveja Committee) (1976-78).
- (ii) Tata Consultancy Services (1984-86).
- (iii) Estimates Committee of the 7th Lok Sabha (1984-85).
- (iv) Committee on Re-organisation of Delhi set-up (1987-89).

The thrust of the recommendations of these Committees/Agencies was that the DDA should be divested of the extraneous functions which have been conferred on it with the passage of time and the DDA should concentrate on its main object of planned development of Delhi and acquisition and development of land.

(c) to (e) Only two deaths have been reported by the DDA—one in April 1987 and the other in December,